

Blaenau Gwent Wildlife Site/SINC Notification Form

SITE SUMMARY

SITE NAME:

GRID REF:

SURVEYOR(S):

SIZE (approx.):

DATE OF SURVEY:

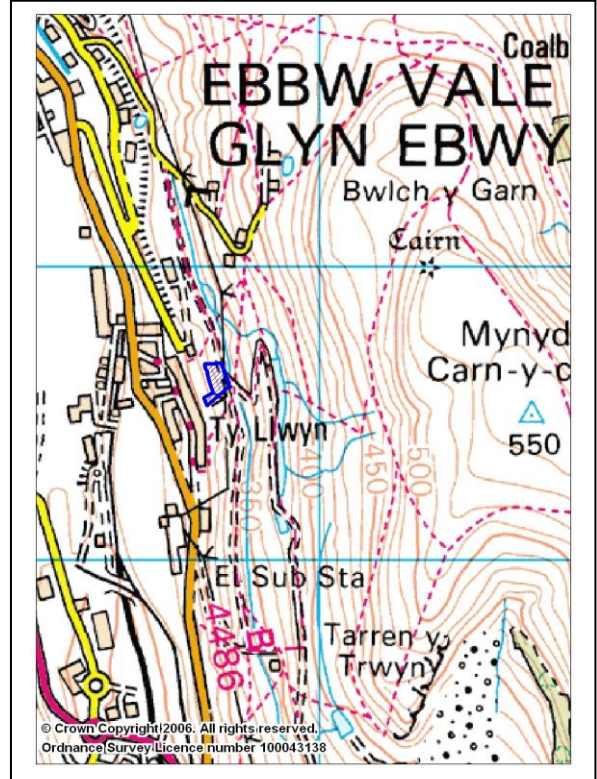
LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA:

WARD:

MAIN HABITAT TYPES PRESENT:

Habitat types	NVC type	Area (ha)
Neutral grassland, semi-improved	MG5	
Marshy grassland	M23	
Scattered trees, Broad-leaved	-	
Dense scrub	-	
Scattered scrub	-	

SKETCH MAP OF SITES LOCATION:



FULL DESCRIPTION OF SITE (including topography, adjacent land use, access and boundaries etc.):

Marshy and neutral species-rich grassland and dense willow scrub characterise this site, which was at one time allotment plots. The grassland is characterised by a high herb:grass ratio. The south-east corner of the site grassland is the most diverse, comprising locally abundant/frequent *Sanguisorba officinalis* (greater burnet), *Trifolium pratense* (red clover), *Agrostis capillaris* (common bent), *Hypochoeris radicata* (common cats ear), *Lotus corniculatus* (birds foot trefoil), *Lotus pedunculatus* (greater birds foot trefoil), *Leontodon autumnalis* (autumn hawkbit), *Carex panicea* (carnation sedge), *Plantago lanceolata* (ribwort plantain), *Potentilla erecta* (tormentil), *Rumex acetosa* (common sorrel), *Anthoxanthum odoratum* (sweet vernal), *Cynosurus cristatus* (crested dogs tail), *Prunella vulgaris* (self heal), *Cirsium palustre* (marsh thistle), occasional *Lychnis flos-cuculi* (ragged robin), *Galium palustre* (marsh bedstraw), *Vicia sativa* (common vetch), *Rumex acetosella* (sheep's sorrel) and *Digitalis purpurea* (foxglove).

A species-rich flush with frequent *Dactylorhiza praetermissa* (southern marsh orchid), *Hydrocotyle vulgaris* (marsh pennywort), *Juncus articulatus* (jointed rush), *Filipendula ulmaria* (meadowsweet), *Epilobium parviflorum* (hoary willowherb), *Cirsium palustre* (marsh thistle), *Carex nigra* (common sedge), *Carex echinata* (star sedge), *Ranunculus flammula* (lesser spearwort) and *Epilobium hirsutum* (great willowherb) runs from east to west adjacent to a line of willow (*Salix sp.*) scrub that may have been an old hedgeline.

Other parts of the site comprise overgrown, neglected neutral grassland with frequent bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*), bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and scrub patches at the field centre and invading from the edges. Here species such as *Trifolium pratense*, *Lotus pedunculatus*, *Vicia cracca* (tufted vetch), *Galium saxatile* (heath bedstraw), *Trifolium medium* (zig zag clover) and *Holcus lanatus* (Yorkshire fog) are locally frequent. Meadow brown and small skipper butterflies were seen here.

Scattered broadleaved woodland and scrub including locally frequent willow, hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) oak (*Quercus sp.*), Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and privet (*Ligustrum sp.*) cover much of the north-west of the site. An old hawthorn hedgerow in the south-west corner is approximately 2-3m away from the existing field boundary. Beyond this the stream opens out into a swamp area with frequent *Typha latifolia* (reedmace), *Caltha palustris* (marsh marigold), *Epilobium hirsutum*, *Juncus articulatus* and *Lotus pedunculatus*.

Official Use Only: Site selected as a Wildlife Site/SINC? YES NO Date: _____

Please state the section(s) of the Wildlife Site Guidelines that this site qualifies under:

H4) Acid grasslands
H7) Marshy grasslands

Qualifying Habitat types	Number of indicator species present
Species-rich neutral grassland	9
Marshy grassland	13